



NEWS RELEASE

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Redondo Beach Woman Pleads in Multimillion Insurance Fraud Scheme

A Redondo Beach woman accused of participating in a \$150 million workers' compensation insurance fraud scheme pleaded guilty today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Kennes Ma said Marissa Nelson (dob 11/29/76) pleaded to one felony count of conspiracy to commit insurance fraud and admitted a special allegation of taking property of a value exceeding \$3.2 million in case BA455469.

The sentencing hearing for Nelson is scheduled for July 27, 2018.

The defendant is one of a dozen people accused of fraudulently billing tens of millions of dollars to insurance companies for fraudulent surgeries, prescription medications, fake MRIs, falsifying medical reports and office visits.

Nelson was a personal assistant to orthopedic surgeon Dr. Munir Uwaydah. She is also the wife of co-defendant Peter Nelson, a physician's assistant who never attended medical school and allegedly performed invasive and sometimes unnecessary surgeries.

Deputy District Attorneys Dayan Mathai, Catherine Chon, Karen Nishita and Kennes Ma are prosecuting the case.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Bureau of Investigation and the Organized Crime Division.

[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.